



United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Conservation Division
P. O. Box 26124
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125

May 7, 1979

Memorandum

To: Area Mining Supervisor, SRMA

From: Mining Engineer, SRMA

Subject: Field inspection of open-pit mining operations
at the Jackpile-Paguete Mine, The Anaconda Company,
Laguna Leases 1 and 4, T 10 and 11 N, R 5W, Laguna
Indian Reservation, Valencia County, New Mexico

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by: SC

Date: 6/24/13

April 4, 1978, the writer inspected the subject mining operations in the company of Mr. Erwin Green, Manager of Engineering Services for Anaconda. The purpose of the inspection was the examination of the active mining areas. The last such inspection was conducted October 27, 1978.

Mining operations in the Jackpile Pit were examined first. Stripping by both Anaconda and Hamilton Construction, a private contractor, was almost complete in the NJ-17 and 23 and NJ-27 pushbacks. The overburden from these areas was being placed on the North Dump and backfilled into the completed NJ-2 and NJ-5 pushbacks. Upon completion of stripping, Anaconda will commence ore zone mining in the NJ-17 and 23 and NJ-27 areas, and the stripping operations will be moved to the NJ-32 pushback to the northeast. Both Anaconda and Hamilton will strip the NJ-32 and NJ-37 pushbacks. Ore zone mining by Anaconda was nearing completion in the NJ-24, NJ-28 and NJ-28 North pushbacks, and these operations will be transferred to the NJ-17 and 23 and NJ-27 areas when that stripping is finished. Mining waste from the NJ-24, NJ-28 and NJ-28 North pushbacks was being backfilled into the mined out SJ-3 and SJ-12 areas.

At the time of this inspection, five ore stockpiles were active in the Jackpile Pit. Protore (0.02-0.04% U_3O_8) was being placed on stockpile J-1A, and low grade material (0.05-0.06% U_3O_8) was being stored at the J-17E stockpile. Shipments from J-17E should begin in the later part of 1979. Stockpiles J-9, J-10 and J-11 were the active



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high grade ore stockpiles and were being shipped from regularly.

In the Paguate Pit, ore zone mining in the SP-9 pushback was completed in March, and the pit bottom was being drilled for remnant ore zones. Stripping was underway in the SP-16 pushback to the southeast, and the overburden from this area was being backfilled into the SP-9 pushback. The SP-20 pushback was 95% complete with the recovery of remnant ore zones in the pit bottom to be finished in the near future. Mining waste from the SP-20 area was being used for backfill in both the SP-20 and SP-9 pushbacks. Drilling was being conducted in the North Paguate Pit with both stripping and ore zone mining scheduled for May-June 1979. These operations will consist of recovering ore remnants in the pit bottom and small ore zones in the NP-33, NP-34 and NP-36 pushbacks.

Seven ore stockpiles were active in the Paguate Pit at the time of this inspection. Protore was being placed on stockpile SP-1B, and low grade ore was being stored on the large SP-2C stockpile. Stockpiles SP-3C, SP-6 and SP-9 were the active shipping stockpiles with SP-3C providing the majority of the material shipped. Underground ore from the P-10 Mine was being stored in shipping stockpiles U-5 and U-25 which were located between open-pit stockpiles SP-3C and SP-1C.

During calendar year 1978, the open-pit mining operations by both Anaconda and Hamilton Construction produced a total of 35,113,972 tons of overburden, ore, protore and mining waste. Categorized, monthly open-pit production is shown on the attached excavation report, and it should be pointed out that Hamilton averaged more than 1.5 million tons of overburden per month. January 1979 production was 2,521,140 tons of overburden, 84,287 tons of protore at 0.03% U_3O_8 , 73,371 tons of ore at 0.09% U_3O_8 , and 953,388 tons of mining waste (3,632,186 tons of material total). February 1979 production increased to 2,909,007 tons of overburden, 82,467 tons of protore (0.03% U_3O_8), 102,207 tons of ore (0.10% U_3O_8) and 588,281 tons of mining waste (3,681,962 tons total). Categorized production for March 1979 had not yet been compiled, but ore production for that month decreased to 91,992 tons at 0.11% U_3O_8 .

During the inspection, Mr. Green pointed out the reclamation underway near the Jackpile Pit where scrapers and bulldozers were slope

dressings waste dumps X and Y with Tres Hermanos material. Mr. Green also noted that there would be two more sessions of waste dumping on the south side of Gavilan Mesa. Material from push-backs NJ-37 and NJ-45 would slightly increase the size of this dump and would also be used for slope dressing.


Dale C. Jones
Mining Engineer

cc: Superintendent, Southern Pueblos Agency, BIA
Governor, Pueblo of Laguna
Conservation Manager, Central Region, Denver
Files

THE ANACONDA CO.										CONTRACTOR					
MONTH	.040 ORE TO STOCKPILE	GRADE	POUNDS	.020—.039 PROTORE TO STOCKPILE	GRADE	POUNDS	MINING WASTE	STRIPPING	TOTAL TONNAGE	MINING WASTE	STRIPPING	TOTAL TONNAGE	TOTAL TONNAGE OPEN PIT		
JANUARY	162,623	0.07046	229,162	133,273	0.0350	93,305	351,742	143,037	790,675	135,246	1,150,997	1,286,243	2,076,918		
FEBRUARY	249,123	0.0786	391,961	148,549	0.0356	105,747	161,597	387,099	946,368	480,940	1,424,409	1,905,349	2,851,717		
YEAR TO DATE	411,746	0.0754	621,123	281,822	0.0353	199,072	513,339	530,136	1,737,043	616,186	2,575,406	3,191,592	4,928,635		
MARCH	281,100	0.2300	1,292,750	9,997	0.0297	5,953	138,836	399,418	823,351	0	1,839,384	1,839,384	2,668,735		
YEAR TO DATE	692,846	0.1381	1,913,873	291,819	0.0351	205,025	652,175	929,554	2,566,394	616,186	4,414,790	5,030,976	7,597,370		
APRIL	244,529	0.0840	410,608	167,232	0.0327	109,207	32,647	917,903	1,362,311	90,938	2,352,821	2,443,759	3,806,070		
YEAR TO DATE	937,375	0.1240	2,324,481	459,051	0.0342	314,232	684,822	1,847,457	3,928,705	707,124	6,767,611	7,474,735	11,403,440		
MAY	24,219	0.0578	27,993	36,501	0.0298	21,757	271,168	55,739	387,627	231,150	440,330	671,480	1,059,107		
YEAR TO DATE	961,594	0.1223	2,352,474	495,552	0.0339	335,989	955,990	1,903,196	4,316,332	938,274	7,207,941	8,146,215	12,462,547		
JUNE	24,932	0.0700	35,092	107,870	0.0280	61,518	797,722	318,142	1,206,666	666,351	1,315,033	1,971,404	3,178,070		
YEAR TO DATE	986,526	0.1210	2,387,566	603,422	0.0329	397,507	1,713,712	2,219,330	5,522,958	1,394,625	8,522,994	10,117,619	15,640,617		
JULY	46,909	0.1422	133,026	139,037	0.0280	77,940	871,359	0	1,057,365	764,747	1,201,505	1,966,252	3,023,637		
YEAR TO DATE	1,033,515	0.1220	2,521,192	742,459	0.0320	475,455	2,595,071	2,219,338	6,580,383	2,359,372	9,724,499	12,083,871	18,664,254		
AUGUST	60,516	0.0991	120,008	166,137	0.0273	90,663	856,998	0	1,083,681	599,102	1,673,902	2,275,004	3,358,685		
YEAR TO DATE	1,094,061	0.1207	2,641,200	908,596	0.0312	566,118	3,442,069	2,219,338	7,664,064	2,958,474	11,400,401	14,358,875	22,022,939		
SEPTEMBER	129,914	0.1292	335,704	99,507	0.0291	57,959	722,243	0	951,664	136,344	2,521,201	2,657,545	3,609,209		
YEAR TO DATE	1,223,975	0.1216	2,976,904	1,008,103	0.0310	624,077	4,164,312	2,219,338	8,615,728	3,094,818	13,921,602	17,016,420	25,632,148		
OCTOBER	205,368	0.1095	449,641	132,354	0.0287	75,980	434,498	0	772,220	0	2,909,874	2,909,874	3,682,094		
YEAR TO DATE	1,429,343	0.1199	3,426,545	1,140,457	0.0307	700,057	4,598,810	2,219,338	9,387,948	3,094,818	16,931,476	19,926,294	29,314,242		
NOVEMBER	103,704	0.0879	182,250	92,322	0.0274	50,591	447,526	93,053	736,605	0	2,462,835	2,462,835	3,199,440		
YEAR TO DATE	1,533,047	0.1177	3,608,795	1,232,779	0.0304	750,648	5,046,336	2,312,391	10,124,553	3,094,818	19,294,311	22,389,129	32,513,682		
DECEMBER	134,250	0.1030	276,536	105,997	0.0289	61,178	438,748	89,508	768,503	0	1,831,787	1,831,787	2,600,290		
YEAR TO DATE	1,667,297	0.1165	3,885,331	1,338,776	0.0303	811,826	5,485,084	2,401,899	10,893,056	3,094,818	21,126,098	24,220,916	35,113,972		
TOTAL ORE MINED FOR 1978										9918,678			23,527,997		TOTAL STRIPPING OPEN PIT. CONTR. + TAC
TOTAL WASTE OPEN PIT (INCLUDES PROTORE)															

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THE ANACONDA CO.										CONTRACTOR					TOTAL TONNAGE OPEN PIT
MONTH	.040 → ORE TO STOCKPILE	GRADE	POUNDS	.020 - .039 PROTORE TO STOCKPILE	GRADE	POUNDS	MINING WASTE	STRIPPING	TOTAL TONNAGE	MINING WASTE	STRIPPING	TOTAL TONNAGE			
JANUARY	162,623	0.07046	229,162	133,273	0.0350	93,305	351,742	143,037	790,675	135,246	1,150,997	1,286,243		2,076,918	
FEBRUARY	249,123	0.0786	391,961	148,549	0.0356	105,767	161,597	387,099	946,368	480,940	1,424,409	1,905,349		2,051,717	
YEAR TO DATE	411,746	0.0754	621,123	281,822	0.0353	199,072	513,339	530,136	1,737,043	616,186	2,575,406	3,191,592		4,928,635	
MARCH	281,100	0.2300	1,292,750	9,997	0.0297	5,953	138,836	399,418	823,351	-0-	1,839,384	1,839,384		2,668,735	
YEAR TO DATE	692,846	0.1381	1,913,873	291,819	0.0351	205,025	652,175	929,554	2,566,394	616,186	4,414,790	5,030,976		7,597,370	
APRIL	244,329	0.0840	410,008	167,232	0.0327	109,207	32,647	917,903	1,362,311	90,938	2,352,821	2,443,759		3,806,070	
YEAR TO DATE	937,375	0.1240	2,324,181	459,051	0.0342	314,232	684,822	1,847,457	3,928,705	707,124	6,767,611	7,474,735		11,403,440	
MAY	24,219	0.0578	27,993	36,501	0.0298	21,757	271,168	55,739	387,627	231,150	440,330	671,480		1,059,107	
YEAR TO DATE	961,594	0.1223	2,352,474	495,552	0.0339	335,989	955,990	1,903,196	4,316,332	938,274	7,207,941	8,146,215		12,462,547	
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YEAR TO DATE	986,526	0.1210	2,387,566	603,422	0.0329	397,507	1,713,712	2,219,338	5,522,998	1,594,629	8,522,994	10,117,619		15,640,617	
JULY	46,389	0.1422	133,626	139,037	0.0280	77,948	871,359	-0-	1,037,385	764,747	1,201,505	1,966,252		3,023,637	
YEAR TO DATE	1,033,515	0.1220	2,521,192	742,459	0.0320	475,455	2,585,071	2,219,338	6,580,383	2,359,372	9,724,499	12,083,871		18,664,254	
AUGUST	60,546	0.0991	120,008	166,137	0.0273	90,663	856,998	-0-	1,083,681	599,102	1,675,902	2,275,004		3,358,685	
YEAR TO DATE	1,094,061	0.1207	2,641,200	908,596	0.0312	566,118	3,442,069	2,219,338	7,664,064	2,958,474	11,400,401	14,358,875		22,022,939	
SEPTEMBER	129,914	0.1202	335,704	99,507	0.0291	57,959	722,243	0	951,664	136,344	2,521,201	2,657,545		3,609,209	
YEAR TO DATE	1,223,975	0.1216	2,976,904	1,008,103	0.0310	624,077	4,164,312	2,219,338	8,015,728	3,094,818	13,921,602	17,016,420		25,632,148	
OCTOBER	205,368	0.1095	449,641	132,354	0.0287	75,980	434,498	-0-	772,220	-0-	2,909,874	2,909,874		3,682,094	
YEAR TO DATE	1,429,343	0.1199	3,426,545	1,140,457	0.0307	700,057	4,598,810	2,219,338	9,387,948	3,094,818	16,831,476	19,926,294		29,314,242	
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YEAR TO DATE	1,667,297	0.1165	3,885,331	1,338,776	0.0303	811,826	5,485,084	2,401,899	10,893,056	3,094,818	21,126,098	24,220,916		35,113,972	
TOTAL ORE MINED FOR 1978										9,918,678	23,527,997			TOTAL STRIPPING OF PIT. CONT. TA	
TOTAL WASTE OPEN PIT (INCLUDES PROTORE)															

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